**Mr. K. T. Mathew.**—When was the scheme drawn up?

**Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.**—The last scheme approved by the Government was that formed in 1099 by the Road Improvement Committee. A programme for three years was laid down and sanctioned by the Government, and works were carried out year by year.

## The improvement of Naduppanthi in Kunnamkulam.

**152. Mr. K T. Mathew.**—With reference to the answer to question No 303 (legislative session), will the Government be pleased to state—

(a) what is the expenditure estimated for widening the 'Naduppanthi' in Kunnamkulam Town; who prepared the estimate and when was it prepared;

(b) whether anywhere in the State people have come forward and given such valuable ground and houses for such purposes free, in the near past; and if so, when and where;

(c) if the answer to clause (b) is in the negative, what is the reason for taking a different attitude towards the improvement of Kunnamkulam;

(d) whether the Government has any objection to make enquiries with the help of a few non-officials and find out that the work could be done by adopting any less costly scheme;

(e) whether the Government has any objection to complete the work slowly within two or three years' time, executing every year a part of the work, and if this view is not acceptable to the Government, what arrangement the Government will make for getting the work done, for the execution of which there have been so many petitions and representations to the Government from the people as well as from the Town Improvement Committee appointed by the Government;

(f) whether any part of the work will be taken up for execution before the close of 1102, and whether necessary amount of money for it will not be provided in the budget for the year 1102?

**Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.**—(a) The expenditure was estimated at Rs. 30,000 approximately by the Eastern Division Assistant Engineer in 1099.

(b) Lands have been given free of compensation in many cases in Mattancheri and Ernakulam.

(c) No answer is called for.

(d) No further enquiry as proposed seems to be necessary. The Government will however be glad to consider any fresh schemes for the purpose.

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(e) The Government do not consider that there is sufficient justification for the large outlay required for widening the place. The amount available year after year could with advantage be spent on sanitary improvements in the town which would be conducive to the health of the people generally, and therefore, of far greater importance than the scheme under reference.

(f) Vide answer 303 of the legislative session.

**Mr. K. T. Mathew.**—I have addressed a letter to the Government, stating that the amount calculated for the works is Rs. 30,000, that the amount, as per the estimate prepared, is a costly one, and requested the Government to make enquiries and evolve a suitable scheme.

**President.**—Do you mean the Naduppanthi Road? I have myself sanctioned the work. Accidents are likely to occur there, as there is no bellmouth there.

**Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.**—The traffic is so great there as in other places.

**Mr. K. T. Mathew.**—This is the most congested and busy place in Kunnamkulam.

**Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.**—I myself have seen many cars there.

**Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.**—It is a very crowded place, and people come there in great numbers to purchase and sell things.

**President.**—Such a large expenditure should be avoided. I believe the acquisition of buildings are necessary for the work.

**Mr. K. T. Mathew.**—Acquiring a *varandah* will be sufficient.

**Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.**—I have inspected the place. According to the estimate, it is a very costly undertaking. I shall go and see once more.

**President.**—I myself have seen the place.

**Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.**—No doubt it is a crowded place.

**President.**—Is any reduction possible? The houses there are very close to each other, and if we are to acquire these buildings for the work, the cost will be prohibitive. Anyhow, it will be looked into.

**Mr. K. T. Mathew.**—To acquire buildings will be very costly. It is enough, if we acquire some *varandahs*.

**Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.**—I went there once with the Hon'ble Member for Kunnamkulam. He said that it might be acquired by persuasion, and suggested me to acquire, and that he shall use his influence with the people there. I tried, and it was found to be a very costly undertaking.

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**Mr. K. T. Mathew.**—It does not involve so heavy an expenditure, and something may be done.

**President.**—It shall be looked into.

## Conferring financial and executive powers upon the Kunnamkulam Town Improvement Committee.

**153. Mr. K. T. Mathew.**—With reference to the answer given to question No. 116 (legislative session), will the Government be pleased to state whether the Government has come to any decision in the matter of conferring upon the Town Improvement Committee, some financial and executive powers and of introducing the principle of election for the selection of non-official members of the Committee, and if the answer is in the negative, the probable date of coming to a decision?

**Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.**—The Government have not yet come to a decision in the matter. No probable date can be now fixed. The matter will be disposed of as early as practicable.

## Proposals of the Town Improvement Committee, Kunnamkulam.

**154. Mr. K. T. Mathew.**—Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement containing the suggestions made yearly by the Town Improvement Committee, Kunnamkulam, for the improvement of the town from the date of its organisation; their suggestions carried out by the Government; the time when the other suggestions will be carried out and the reasons, if any, if their suggestions will not be carried out?

**Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.**—A statement containing the information required is appended. (*Vide Appendix III.*) It is not possible to say definitely when all the suggestions will be carried out. It will all depend upon the funds at the disposal of the Government.

## The want of a tank in Kunnamkulam Town for the use of cattle.

**155. Mr. K. T. Mathew.**—Will the Government be pleased to state whether the Government or the Superintendent of Agriculture has not received any petition or representation from the people of Kunnamkulam as well as from the Town Improvement Committee, Kunnamkulam, informing that there is no tank in Kunnamkulam Town for the use (bathing) of cattle, and that the absence of such a tank is causing great hardship, and whether any arrangement has been made for removing the hardship, and if no arrangement has been made, whether a tank will soon be provided or reserved for this purpose?

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